

BONFIRES LIGHT CITY'S STREETS

Christmas Spirit As Incarnated In Small Boy Bubbles Over.

WHOLE DAY GIVEN OVER TO FESTIVITY

Observance of This Holiday Most General — Business of Every Character Suspended Where Possible—The Poor Are Not Forgotten.

A thousand bonfires last night lit the streets of Richmond. Barrels piled man-high were ablaze upon many a corner, and around them gathered merry troops of girls and boys dancing in the fire-light, shooting firecrackers in all the pomp and glory of youth, having a merry Christmas, out in the open, and through the weather might be. Rows after rows burst upon the silence of the night, for from doorway and window crackles poured up into the sky, cannon crackers were being thrown into the empty streets with reckless abandon, and snuff balls scattered along the pavement like demoniacal spirits.

Richmond gave itself over to celebration. Business and sorrow and gloom took to themselves wings and fled with the shadows of day. It was a time for jubilation, for merriment and gladness. No one thought of the morrow, saying in their hearts, "Let the morrow take care of itself; sufficient unto the day are the evils thereof. Let us eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we may die." And with a determination to make the best of it while the day lasted, the good people of the city of Father Byrd burned the Yule log, busied the girls beneath the dancing mallets, shot firecrackers until there were no more to shoot, filled themselves happily with eggnog, plum pudding and mince pie, and made merry from early morn until those broke in the East, the light of another dawn.

Every One Happy.

Everybody was happy yesterday. No one but remembered that Christmas comes but once a year. Schoolboys and girls were home for the holidays, and around the family table the young ones of the house told of his merry pranks, while the father, remembering the days of his own youth, twinkled in jovial gleam; the girls told, too, of their little pranks in evading the watchful eyes of their teachers to pass a moment or two in some quiet flirtation; grandmothers told of other Christmas, some standing the test of time, and some faded with the years, but all had once spent a Christmas on the field of battle with never a bit of Christmas cheer. And around the festive board gathered all the family at merriment; stories were told, and the turkey and puddings were enjoyed with a zest that comes only with the tide of Yule.

Early in the morning, before old Sol had awakened to a blissful morning, the small boy was up; stockings were examined and carefully shaken that not the least thing might be turned away and lost, and then, with a merry whoop and yell, the youngsters were out on the streets, blazing their fireworks. With such thunderous noises reverberating through the hollow, empty streets, sleep was no longer possible. The father, however, his lady, and the mother, with a roll and rumble, arose and went forth to do honor to the day of all the year. Many quiet throngs wandered their way early to church, where they offered up their prayers for the Blessed Incarnation, and then hastened home again to enjoy with their families the Christmas feast.

Bitter Cold Day.

It was a bitter cold day, and few people remained long on the streets. It was comfortable indoors, where the fires blazed merrily, and the Christmas presents had to be looked over again. Toward midnight, however, the young people took possession of the city, and the kindly cops looked on and let them have their way. Soon boxes and barrels, stored away for the past three months, some of them having been swiped from the groceryman around the corner, were piled on every corner, and their flames, soaring above the rooftops, turned the streets into one great panorama of a seething, radiant light. And Charles's Wain, looking down from his place among the stars, must have looked down on a something like this. And the people, little lumps of drowsy dancing around their victims of torture.

Every child in Richmond, with barely an exception, had his fireworks, and streaming rockets were seen on every hand, while the deep boom of baby-walkers and cannon-crackers seemed to shake the very heart of the city. Round the burning barrels, piled one on top of the other, the little figures danced and played, while their elders gazed at them from fast closed windows, seldom the child could not enter. Occasionally one saw upon a corner people old and gray-haired watching, with quiet amusement, the glee of the youngsters. One venerable looking man, whose hair had turned the snows of many winters, was heard to say, "Let them have their fun. They have their youth but once, and the autumn chill of age will only too soon gather about the shoulders."

I was a boy, once, myself, and my brothers and I made many a night of it around just such fires. His eyes filled with tears at the thought of the days now numbered among the past, as the poet has truly said, "Sorrow's crown of sorrow is remembering happier things."

Very Few Accidents.

There were surprisingly few accidents. There and there some unfortunate boy grew too careless, and learned from bitter experience that it is not wise to become too intimate with fire brands. An unusually unfortunate boy in the East End had his hand badly torn, and lacerated by a cannoncracker, which he thought had become extinguished. It exploded in his hand with terrific force tearing the hand badly.

A passer-by on Broad Street had the fireball of a rocket go up his sleeve. The agony of the seared flesh was too great for human endurance, and he tore off his coat, and the burning brand fell at his feet.

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MANY WRECKS ON XMAS DAY

Seaboard Has One and Southern Three Within Twenty-Four Hours.

BIG FOUR HAS BAD SMASH-UP

Total Shows That Six Were Killed, and Perhaps Fifty Were Injured—Seaboard Air Line Trestle at Taylor's Creek Burned.

Wrecks Xmas Day.

Seaboard Air Line wreck, 1 killed, many injured.
Southern wreck, 1 killed, 3 injured.
Southern wreck, many injured.
Big Four wreck, 18 injured.
Rio Grande wreck, 3 killed.
Seaboard Air Line trestle burned.
Buffalo Flyer wreck, 1 killed, 14 injured.

Yesterday proved a day of railway wrecks, for the Southern had no less than three, while the Seaboard had one and also had a trestle burned. The Big Four suffered a very disastrous smash-up, the Rio Grande road killed three persons and the fearful grade crossing disaster at Ashland, Ohio, caused one death and injuries to fourteen. It is remarkable that only six people were killed in the seven wrecks recorded above, and this is especially so when it is remembered that the trains were packed with people during the holiday.

FLAGMAN KILLED BY SEABOARD WRECK

Passenger Train Dashed Into Loose Freight Cars North of Raleigh.

RALEIGH, N. C., December 25.—While a Witherspoon, flagman on the Seaboard Air Line, was killed in a wreck just north of Raleigh this morning, in which passenger train No. 84, north-bound, ran into a number of freight cars and a caboose which had in some way, gotten out of the freight-yard at Johnston Street Station on to the Seaboard main line.

The engineer and a number of the other trainmen and express and mail clerks had narrow escapes, but no one else was seriously hurt, except Captain W. B. Tillman and Engineer Ashworth.

Witherspoon was in the caboose of the stray section of freight asleep when the engine of the passenger train crashed into it, he not having been awakened by the movement of his cars on their "wild" run out of the yard.

The accident caused a serious block in travel. It was necessary to send the second section of Passenger Trains No. 84 and No. 81 over the Southern Railroad via Durham to get back on the Seaboard main line at Henderson. Other local Seaboard trains were delayed six hours by the wreck.

S. A. L. Trestle Burns.

RALEIGH, N. C., December 25.—The Seaboard Air Line trestle at Taylor's Creek, seventy miles below Richmond, was burned this morning at 4:45 o'clock. Travel is entirely blocked and will be until a temporary bridge can be thrown across the creek.

ONE KILLED AND THREE INJURED

Southern Train Runs Into Open Switch—Engine Turned Turtle.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 25.—Southern Railway passenger train No. 25, from Washington, was wrecked at Mericreef, five miles from Jacksonville, at 5 o'clock this morning.

One dead:
JOHN HOLMES, colored fireman.

Seriously injured:
Engineer Urquhart, of Savannah, Ga., reached by escaping steam.

J. A. Kramer, white, express messenger; J. E. Ruben, colored, express helper.

None of the passengers were injured.

Physicians were sent out and the injured were brought here for treatment.

Through some unexplained error, the switchman in the tower turned on the derailing switch in front of the moving train, which caused the engine to turn turtle and threw the express car from the track.

HEAD-ON COLLISION.

Southern Trains Crash—Engineer Has Ankle Broken.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., December 25.—At 12:49 o'clock this morning, at Liberty, S. C., Southern train No. 41, a local passenger train, operating between Charlotte and Toccoa, on the Atlanta-Charlotte Air Line division, struck No. 74, a through freight, wrecking both engines and derailing several cars.

No passengers were killed, but the engineer of the passenger train had his right leg broken in several places, and was unable to proceed on his journey. Both trains were moving at a slow rate of speed, and the accident was caused by a confusion in signals of the trainmen.

SEVERAL INJURED.

Southern Passenger Train Ran Into a Freight at Station.

GREENVILLE, S. C., December 25.—Last night at 8:45 o'clock Southern

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FATHER IS SHOT BY LITTLE BOY

Gun Exploded When Lad Fell and Load Went Through Man's Body.

KILLED TURKEY ON BACK

Operation Performed in This City Last Night and Condition Is Critical.

Mr. Oscar Filippa, about thirty-five years of age, was accidentally shot by his young son, near his home in Pinola, Carolina county, yesterday afternoon. The entire contents of a shell in a single-barreled shotgun were emptied into the side of Mr. Filippa.

The shot passed through the body, and a live turkey that was swinging from the shoulder of the wounded man was killed. After passing entirely through the body of the man, the shot penetrated the neck and the head of the fowl.

Mr. Filippa, who was shot about 1 o'clock, was brought to Richmond, arriving here at 9:30 o'clock last night.

He was taken to the Memorial Hospital and an operation was performed by Dr. George Ben Johnston. Mr. Filippa's condition is extremely critical, but it is not expected that he will die within the next forty-eight hours.

Physicians here know little of the details of the accidental shooting, other than those given above. From what could be learned, the father and son had gone into the woods after game. Crossing a field near the house Mr. Filippa caught a tame turkey, and was taking this home at the time of the accident.

His small son was walking slightly in front of him and to the right. Suddenly the boy fell and the gun he was carrying exploded.

THREE KILLED; FOUR WOUNDED

Striking Miners and "Scabs" Make Things Lively in Kentucky Town.

OWENSBORO, KY., December 25.—Three men were killed and four probably fatally wounded in a fight last night between guards employed by the West Kentucky Coal Company at Sturgis, Union county, and the striking miners at that place. The dead are:

C. J. DOUGHERTY, mine guard.

BILLY MALLORY, miner.

WILL GRAY, miner.

The wounded are:

L. I. Moore, mine guard; will die.

Sam Barnaby, miner; dying.

William Goch, miner; shot in the arm.

Henry Delaney; shot in the arm.

The fight occurred in a downtown street about one mile from the mine, but just what precipitated the fight is not known. It broke suddenly, and continued until about twenty-five shots were exchanged.

The members of the miners' union have been on strike for the past year. The coal company has been working non-union men under guards, and serious trouble has been long expected. The fight cost a pause and a reign of terror existed for an hour. There is only one officer in town, but the sheriff of Union county and deputies have arrived at Sturgis.

HERE'S ANOTHER ITEM ABOUT HEAVY SCRAP

LOS ANGELES, December 25.—F. C. Skinner, the Rhynellite fight promoter, accompanied by B. F. Taylor, a wealthy Nevada mining man, arrived in Los Angeles yesterday for the purpose of arranging a finish fight for the heavy-weight championship of the world between James J. Jeffries and Bill Squieres, of Australia, who is now ready to start for America.

It is understood Skinner is ready to meet Jeffries' demands for a \$50,000 purse, and the battle probably will take place at the mining town in the early spring.

\$200,000 FIRE AT SHIP-YARDS

One Great Building Completely Destroyed and Other Injured.

PLANT HAD NARROW ESCAPE

Old Dominion Steamship Damaged \$10,000—Fireman Killed by Falling Pole.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., December 25.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed a great frame and sheetrock building, containing the ship-carpenter's, sheetiron and pipefitters' shops and rigging and mould lofts, and which threatened to wipe out the entire plant, occurred this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the works of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. The total loss is estimated at about \$200,000, and is covered by insurance.

The Old Dominion liner Jefferson was damaged to the extent of \$10,000, and was barely saved from the flames.

Edith Edging, a young member of the Eagle Fire Engine Company, No. 2, the city's crack company, was fatally hurt by being struck by a falling telegraph pole. He is now dying at the General Hospital with his skull crushing and throat cut. A red hot wire struck his ground by the falling pole, and the watchmen were on duty in the yard at the time the fire started, and the flames had gained great headway before it was discovered.

All three fire companies were called out, but they had great difficulty working on account of lack of water pressure.

Jefferson Saved.

The Chesapeake and Ohio tug Alice and Helen did fine work, and probably saved the steamer Jefferson and dry-dock No. 2.

Panned by a stiff northwesterly breeze, the blaze quickly enveloped the building in which it originated, and sparks were showered all over the yard.

The machine and joiners' shops caught fire, but work prevented the flames from gaining any headway on these buildings.

The wind, blowing directly toward the Jefferson, kept the vessel and the dock in which she rested covered with sparks.

All the scaffolding on the port side of the ship was burned away, and at one time it looked as though it would be impossible to save her. The dock was partly flooded, and the tug Alice kept a constant stream of water on the ship. The fire was under control at 6 o'clock in the morning when the flames were kept from the carpenter shop where two red chests belonging to two hundred ship carpenters. It is estimated that these men will lose in the neighborhood of \$10,000, and their loss is not covered by insurance. General Manager W. A. Post, of the ship-yard, said to your correspondent to-night that it was impossible to estimate accurately the amount of damage done, but that whatever it was, it was covered by insurance.

It is thought that the total damage will not amount to over two hundred thousand dollars.

PROMINENT MAN HAS FATAL PARALYTIC STROKE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., December 25.—D. W. Dixon, a retired merchant, and one of Charlotte's most prominent citizens, died to-night, following several strokes of paralysis. He was a grandson of David Reese, one of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, and is survived by six children, all of who were representative citizens of the community. He was seventy-seven years old.

WATCHMAN DROPPED DEAD AT HIS POST

Mr. John West, about seventy years old, dropped dead at Seventh and Hospital Streets Monday night about 11 o'clock. He was engaged as watchman for the Seaboard Air Line Railroad. Heart disease is believed to have been the cause of death.

An inquest was unnecessary, and the body was taken to the home of the deceased.

TWO PRISONERS' FRENCH LEAVE

Henrico Captives Saw Bar in Two and Bid Keepers a Fond Adieu.

DANGLING ROPE TELLS TALE

Line Lets Them Down to Terra Firma—This Was Left to Guards as Keepsake.

Two prisoners who were being held in the city jail for the Henrico county authorities sawed one bar from a window on the fourth floor yesterday morning, and made a great Christmas escape by descending to terra firma by means of a rope that had evidently been given them.

At 6 o'clock in the morning, when the jail officials started to count the prisoners, it was found that the two Henrico captives were missing. A visit to this cell on the fourth floor, was made, and it was then seen that one of the bars had been sawed. A rope was also noticed dangling from the window sill. It didn't require any great thinking to solve the puzzle. The prisoners had escaped, and it was a mean grin that the officials at the jail handed out afterwards.

When called up over the telephone last night an officer at the jail professed entire ignorance until informed of what had happened. Then he volunteered to say that the two prisoners had sawed a bar and had gotten out of the jail by the means of a rope.

The prisoners escaped, and they perhaps spent a merry Christmas.

Evans was the name of one of the men. He picked a man's pocket during the State Fair and was caught. Morris robbed the freight depot of the Seaboard Air Line and was nabbed. They were sent there for six months.

TWO GIRLS KILLED CELEBRATING XMAS

One Was Shot and the Other Was Burned to Death.

ATLANTA, GA., December 25.—Miss Lynna R. Freeman and her uncle, E. S. Larrimore, were discharging blank cartridges this morning in celebration of the day. Those being exhausted, they secured the freight depot of the Seaboard Air Line and was nabbed. They were sent there for six months.

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THE PRESIDENT COMES TO VIRGINIA HOME

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt and the Roosevelt children will leave for the Pine Knot, Mrs. Roosevelt's country home in Albemarle county, Va., early Thursday morning. They will remain there until December 31.

BOAT OVERTURNED; TWO MEN DROWNED

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 25.—Arthur Barwick and Albert Decker, young married men, left here Sunday in a small sailboat to gather Christmas decorations. They did not return. A searching party to-day found the overturned boat. The bodies have not yet been recovered.

BROTHER KILLS BROTHER; JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE

WARRENTON, GA., December 25.—Paul Lynch shot and instantly killed his brother, Nicholas Lynch, about seven miles from here last night. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict of justifiable homicide. Both were extensive farmers and saw-mill men.

FIFTEEN KILLED, MANY WOUNDED, IN A RACE RIOT

LEITER'S MOTOR KILLED NEGRO

Whole Party Were Arrested and Taken to Police Headquarters.

BOY'S HEAD WAS CRUSHED

Coroner Decided That It Was an Accident and Bailed Chauffeur.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—The sixty-horse power touring car of Joseph Leiter, the "wheat king" millionaire, in which were Mr. Leiter and Mrs. Levi Z. Leiter, mother-in-law of Lord Curzon, and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Remington, of New York, to-day ran down and instantly killed Samuel West, a fourteen-year-old negro boy. Mrs. Leiter and Mrs. Remington were greatly affected by the accident. Charles H. Raymond, the chauffeur, was arrested, and the entire party went to the Tenth Precinct Station, where Raymond was paroled in custody of an officer in order that Mr. Leiter and his party might be conveyed to the Leiter residence.

The accident happened on Columbia Heights, near Fourteenth Street and Columbia Road.

The big machine was closely following a street car, and just before Columbia Road was reached the boy, who was riding on the car, jumped off and was almost immediately struck by the automobile. The wheels ran over the boy's head.

Killed Instantly.

The machine was stopped, and Joseph Leiter picked the body up, at the same time directing that physicians be summoned. Life, however, was extinct. Mrs. Leiter at once took steps to locate the parents of the boy.

After leaving his mother and guests at the Leiter home, Mr. Leiter, together with his chauffeur and the officer, went directly to the home of Coroner Nevitt, who after listening to the facts of the case, expressed himself as being willing to admit Raymond to bail. This accordingly was given.

Dr. Nevitt, while entertaining the view that the accident was unavoidable, deemed it necessary to hold an inquest, which he will do to-morrow.

JOSEPH MOORE IS FROZEN TO DEATH

Man Found on the Steps of a Tobacco Factory in Danville.

DANVILLE, VA., December 25.—The frozen body of Joseph Moore, a middle-aged white man, and fairly well dressed, of Baltimore, Md., was found early this morning in a sitting position on the steps of the local cigar and tobacco factory. Moore has been in the city for several weeks, and cards found in his possession show that he represented the Moore Chemical Company, of 345 Courtland Street, Baltimore, Md. He has been canvassing the city selling Moore's lightning ink eraser. When last seen late yesterday afternoon he was intoxicated. He had been dead some hours when discovered, and no coroner's inquest was held.

Nothing has been heard from Baltimore since.

WOMAN SHOT BY HER BROTHER-IN-LAW

LYNCHBURG, VA., December 25.—Mrs. Maurice Fortune, who resides in the western suburb of the city, was shot Sunday afternoon by Haywood M. Fortune, her brother-in-law, who immediately escaped, and has not been heard from since. The shooting was the result of a fight of too much gossip. The woman received a number of shot in the back of her head from a shotgun, but her condition is not regarded as necessarily dangerous. The shooting took place at the home of J. W. Fortune, a justice of the peace of Campbell county, a brother of the assailant, who has made every effort to apprehend his brother.

UNITED STATES SAILORS CAUSED PANIC IN PARK

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 25.—Sailors of the United States cruiser Cleveland caused a panic to-night in a public park while a concert was going on by engaging in a fight and firing many shots. The police restored order by arresting several of the sailors.

WHITE MAN SHOOTS NEGRO BARTENDER

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BRISTOL, TENN., December 25.—Oscar Leonard, white, twenty years of age, son of a widow woman here, shot and mortally wounded "Fiddle" Brown, a colored bartender, in a local bar to-night, the ball entering Brown's abdomen. Leonard claims the shooting was accidental, but Brown says he was deliberately shot down by Leonard.

FOUND DEAD WITH LAUDANUM BOTTLE

MACON, GA., December 25.—William Nutting was found dead in bed in a hotel this morning. A bottle which had contained laudanum, found under the bed, caused the opinion that he had committed suicide. Nutting was a traveling man for the Tennessee Copper Company, and was forty-two years of age. He leaves a family.

FOUR MEN KILLED IN OLD KENTUCKY

Guns, Knives, Stones and Whiskey Played Each Their Part.

LEXINGTON, KY., December 25.—In Letcher county, near the Virginia State line, a battle occurred to-day between a band of moonshiners led by Sol Fleming, a noted outlaw, and an officer's posse, headed by Henry Fugate.

About fifty shots were fired. Captain Fugate, one of the officers, was shot and fatally wounded.

The moonshiners ran out of ammunition and Sol Fleming threw down his gun and surrendered. He was placed in jail at Whitesburg.

At Deano, Letcher county, Sol McRay stabbed Green Sexton in the abdomen, fatally wounding him, after Sexton had robbed McRay's store with a rock.

Both men will die.

Floyd Hall shot and killed Hazardora Sloan, on Carr Creek, Knott county, during a quarrel over whiskey.

Three Negroes Lynched in Mississippi Following Trouble At Wahalah.

SEVEN PERSONS KILLED AT SCOOPA

Governor Vardaman Orders Out Troops, Who Are Ready to Move on Special Train.

Twenty-Five Soldiers Rush to Scene on Engine.

MERIDIAN, MISS., December 25.—The two companies of State militia sent to Wahalah last night, returned to Meridian to-day, their presence there apparently being unnecessary. After their arrival at Wahalah no disturbance occurred, although it is believed that three negroes, including George Simpson, one of the principals in the disturbances about the Mobile and Ohio train last Sunday, had been lynched just before the arrival of the troops. The citizens of Wahalah, while not admitting the fact that the men were captured by a posse, say they "were lost in the swamp" while on their way to town.

Two sons of Simpson were shot to death yesterday afternoon.

The Casualties.

As near as can be ascertained at this time, the casualties resultant from the trouble are as follows:

Conductor Robert Harrison, of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, ambushed and killed by negroes.

Unknown negro shot by Conductor Cooper on the Mobile and Ohio train.

Constable O'Brien killed by precipitator of the trouble, George Simpson, when an attempt at arrest was made.

George Simpson lynched.

Tom Simpson, son of George Simpson, shot to death by white citizens near Wahalah.

Jim Simpson, another son, shot to death.

Two unknown negroes lynched.

Conductors, Cooper seriously injured by being cut and stabbed seven times by George Simpson on the passenger train; not fatal.

Leland Sparkman, soldier, flesh wound in left knee; accidental discharge of his own pistol.

Officers of the companies state that on their arrival at Wahalah no county officials were on hand to whom they could report, and that during their stay there none of the county officials appeared among the troops. Colonel McCants, who was in charge of the troops, stated to the citizens that while the soldiers were always ready to reply to a call for assistance, a real need should be apparent before they were called on. He forbade armed bodies of men riding through the country and would permit no acts which indicated violence.

The soldiers state they found the armed men from other places in charge when they reached the scene.

FIVE MORE NEGROES KILLED AT SCOOPA

Governor Vardaman Has Been Asked to Dispatch Troops.

JACKSON, MISS., December 25.—Late tonight Governor Vardaman received a telegram from J. A. Charles, a prominent citizen of Scooba, Miss., stating that a riot had broken out at Scooba, and that five unknown negroes were killed, and that their slayers had been captured, and asking that twenty-five troops be dispatched to that place to help hold the prisoners.

Governor Vardaman promptly instructed the colonel commanding at Meridian to ask for a special train over the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and to go to the scene as quickly as possible.

Seven Killed.

MERIDIAN, MISS., December 25.—Railroad men, who reported a fresh clash between the forces of Governor Vardaman and the forces of the mob, reported that seven more negroes were killed, and that their slayers had been captured, and asking that twenty-five troops be dispatched to that place to help hold the prisoners.